



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 046601-5034

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Shigeru TSUKIMURA) Confirmation No.: 7883
Application No. 09/450,584) Group Art Unit: 2622
Filed: November 30, 1999) Examiner: Joseph R. Pokrzywa
For: IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE AND) Mail Stop RCE
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop RCE
Alexandria, VA 22314

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently herewith the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-referenced application. Three Japanese references listed in this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in an Office Action issued by the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that JP 05-282500 is a counterpart application of U.S. Patent No. 5,777,758 and 6,433,889, all of which have been cited in the attached Form 1449. Therefore, no fee is required for filing this Information Disclosure Statement.

A concise explanation of relevance for each of the non-English language documents listed may be ascertained from the English-language translation of their Abstract. Copies of the documents are enclosed. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed

documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

PTO Form 1449

Attorney Docket No.

046601-5034

Application No.:

09/450,584

Applicant: Shigeru TSUKIMURA

Filing Date: November 30, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2622

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
		5,777,758	Jul 7, 1998	Tanabe			
		6,433,889	Aug 13, 2002	Tanabe			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	YES	NO
		05-282500	Oct 29, 1993	Japan			Abstract		
		61-013261	Jan 21, 1986	Japan			Abstract		
		08-030063	Feb 2, 1996	Japan			Abstract		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner _____ Date Considered _____

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.